

**2<sup>ND</sup>**

## EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE NUTRIENT INITIATIVE



**ESNI 2020**

**26 NOVEMBER 2020**

**Speakers Bios**



## **Erik Meers**

*Coordinator of the Biorefine Cluster Europe*

Prof. Dr. ir. Erik Meers holds a degree in Bioscience Engineering (Ghent University), an MSc in Environmental Sanitation (Ghent University) and a PhD in Environmental Technology / Environmental Chemistry (Ghent University) with focus on phytoremediation. He is currently a professor at the Department of Green Science and Technology from the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering of Ghent University in Belgium. He is one of the group leaders of the Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry and Applied Ecochemistry (Ecochem), focusing on nutrient recycling and circular economy.

He is currently involved in 15 international research projects (Interreg and H2020) and supervises a team of 20 PhD students and researchers. He is a Chairman to the EBA (European Biogas Association) scientific advisory council, has created and coordinates the UGent Business Development Platform “End-of-Waste” and the project network “Biorefine Cluster Europe” and has started the European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative.

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## Lars Stoumann Jensen

*Professor, University of Copenhagen*



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MILJØVIDENSKAB  
KØBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET

Lars Stoumann Jensen is a Professor of Soil Fertility and Waste Resource Recycling at Dept. of Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of Copenhagen. His research focuses on soil biogeochemistry, in particular C, N, and P turnover following incorporation of organic materials such as crop residues, green and animal manures, biowaste, and other bio-based fertilizer products. These are studied using a range of methods, incl. isotopes ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{33}\text{P}$ ), in both lab and field-based experiments. Research activities also cover emissions of GHG and  $\text{NH}_3$  from waste treatment technologies, fertilizers, and cropping systems under temperate as well as tropical conditions. Furthermore, simulation modeling of soil organic matter dynamics, cropping system productivity, and environmental emissions using the soil-plant-atmosphere model Daisy has been applied to describe the impacts of various fertilization and cropping scenarios at different time-scales. The experimental and modeling outputs have then been integrated into life cycle assessment of different recycling technologies in biological systems, to address societally relevant issues related to climate change, eutrophication, and resource depletion. He is the coordinator of a newly started EU Marie S.Curie Innovative Training Network, FertiCycle, and partner in both the Nutri2Cycle and Lex4Bio H2020 projects.

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## Sander Bruun

*Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen*



Sander Bruun is an Associate Professor at the University of Copenhagen. His research focuses on the environmental impacts of agricultural production with a special focus on climate change. Life cycle assessment is used to compare assess new technologies and their ability to improve the sustainability of agricultural production systems.

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**Ralf Hermann**

*Managing Director, Proman Consulting GmbH*



Ralf Hermann, BSc in mechanical engineering, managing director of Proman Management GmbH; 13 years of experience in project management, mechanical and chemical engineering; worked in the engineering, development, and pilot operations in the first thermo-chemical phosphorus recycling technology; focusing on the research in thermo-chemical and biological extraction of heavy metals and nutrients from sewage sludge ashes and other biowastes, phosphate solubilization and recycling; expert in anaerobic digestion, waste-to-energy solutions and circular economy integration; expert on LCA.

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## Sylvie Gros Lambert

*Professor Université de Liège*



Sylvie Gros Lambert has been a research engineer at the University of Liège since 1989. She has worked in the fields of biotechnology, biological reactors, and chemical engineering in general. It is within this framework that she wrote her doctoral thesis in 2001. Since 2012, she has been carrying out environmental studies in Professor Angélique Léonard's team, including life cycle analyses. Among others, she conducted a study of the environmental impacts of anthropogenic water in the Walloon Region as part of the DGARNE's reports on the state of the Walloon environment. Currently, she is realizing LCA studies in the context of the Pho4You NWE Interreg project in relation to P recovery in wastewater and sludge. As a result of this experience, Sylvie has in-depth knowledge of the entire water cycle, from catchment to sanitation. She has also large expertise in the field of recycling of building materials (aggregates, mineral binders, ...).

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**Joan Colón**



Scientific Coordinator, BETA Technological Center

Dr. Joan Colón is a Biologist and PhD in Environmental Science and Technology. He is the Scientific Coordinator of BETA Technological Center (University of Vic - Central University of Catalonia) and the head of the “Circular Economy, Sustainability & Resource Efficiency” research line. His scientific interest is about biological treatment of solid wastes (e.g. composting, anaerobic digestion, biodrying), the treatment of gaseous pollutants and odors (e.g. biofiltration, chemical absorption), and the evaluation and optimization of waste treatment technologies and industrial processes through sustainability assessments using a triple bottom approach (LCA, LCC, S-LCA, Product Environmental Footprint, carbon footprint, water footprint, etc). He is currently leading the sustainability assessment in the framework of the H2020 FERTIMANURE project.

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## Saïcha Gerbinet

Researcher engineer, Université de Liège

Saïcha Gerbinet is passionate about preserving our planet, and has endeavored for the past 9 years to develop a smarter point of view in this regard by applying the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) methodology. During her studies in chemical engineering at the University of Liège, she began evaluating the environmental impacts of renewable electricity sources, which led her to a Ph.D. on the LCA of a biobased binder. At the same time, she has the opportunity to apply LCA to various products (insulation materials, road sector, chemical products, etc) and has a special interest in agricultural products. She tries to transmit this passion to master students in LCA courses.

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